

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on September 7, 2007. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 10-13, 21, 34-44, and 52-54 are currently pending.

Request for Interview

The Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner after the Examiner has had an opportunity to consider this Amendment, but before the issuance of the next Office Action. The Applicant may be reached at 617-951-3067.

Allowable Art

At page 12 of the Office Action, claim 34-44 were deemed allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

At page 6 of the Office Action, claims 4-33, 37, 42, and 52-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rudoff, US Patent No. 6,636,878, hereinafter Rudoff, in view of Hitz, US Patent No. 6,311,193.

The present invention, as set forth in representative claim 10, comprise in part:

10. A method for generating a point-in-time restoration of a set of database files and a set of associated log files to an active file system, comprising:
selecting, a backup to restore therefrom, the backup comprising a snapshot of a file system including the set of database files, copies of the associated log files and copies of log files associated with a set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot;
verifying the selected backup;

copying, in response to the backup being successfully verified, the snapshot of the set of database files to the active file system;
copying, in response to the backup being successfully verified, the copies of the associated log files to the active file system; and
copying the copies of the log files associated with the set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot to the active file system.

Rudoff discloses a mechanism for replicating and maintaining files in a space-efficient manner. A current file is replicated by associating the data blocks of the current file with both the current file and a new file.

By way of background, Hitz discloses a method for keeping a file system in a consistent state and for creating read-only copies of a file system. The file system progresses from one self-consistent state to another self-consistent state. The set of self-consistent blocks on disk that is rooted by the root inode is referred to as a consistency point. To implement consistency points, new data is written to unallocated blocks on disk. A new consistency point occurs when the fsinfo block is updated by writing a new root inode for the inode file into it. Thus, as long as the root inode is not updated, the state of the file system represented on disk does not change. Snapshots are created, which are read-only copies of the file system. A snapshot uses no disk space when it is initially created. It is designed so that many different snapshots can be created for the same file system. Unlike prior art file systems that create a clone by duplicating the entire inode file and all of the indirect blocks, the present invention duplicates only the inode that describes the inode file. A multi-bit free-block map file is used to prevent data from being overwritten on disk.

Applicant respectfully urges that Rudoff and Hitz, taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest Applicant's claimed novel *selecting, a backup to restore therefrom, the*

backup comprising a snapshot of a file system including the set of database files, copies of the associated log files and copies of log files associated with a set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot and copying the copies of the log files associated with the set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot to the active file system. In further detail, in Applicant's claimed invention when a snapshot is selected to restore, the associated log files are also restored and any log files associated the set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot. The log files include information that has not yet been incorporated in the database at the time the associated snapshot was created. The snapshot and the associated log file when restored return the database to the point in time that the snapshot and the copy of the log file were created.

The Examiner states that Rudoff does not disclose copying log files. The Examiner states that Hitz discloses "copying the copies of the log files associated with the set of snapshots created later in time then the selected snapshot" at Col. 19, lines 23-20. Hitz does not disclose a log at Col. 19, lines 23-20, which states:

"As the active file system 1830 is modified in FIG. 15C, it uses more disk space because the file system comprising blocks 1812-1820 is not over-written. In FIG. 18C, block 1818 is illustrated as a direct block. However, in an actual file system, block 1818 may be pointed to by indirect block as well. Thus, when block 1818 is modified and stored in a new disk location as block 1824, the corresponding direct and indirect blocks are also copied and assigned to the active file system 183." (Emphasis added)

In regard to the statement above, Hitz discloses how more disk space is consumed with direct and indirect blocks. In Applicant's claimed invention, the log files associated with later snapshot then selected.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully urges that Rudoff and Hitz, taken alone or in combination, are legally insufficient to make obvious the presently claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 103 because of the absence of the Applicant's claimed novel *selecting, a backup to restore therefrom, the backup comprising a snapshot of a file system including the set of database files, copies of the associated log files and copies of log files associated with a set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot and copying the copies of the log files associated with the set of snapshots created later in time than the selected snapshot to the active file system.*

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims.

Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

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